

U.S. Application No. 09/816,152

Attorney Docket No.: 144009.00100

c.) Amendments to the claims.

Please amend claims 1, 8, 9, 11, 18-20, 23, 25-28, 30, 31, 37, 40, 41, 46, 51-53, 55, 56 and 58-59 as follows:

Claim 1. (currently amended) A broad-band, computer-based networked system comprising:

an encrypted a collection of patient-based electronic medical records containing medical information of a plurality of persons, wherein:

the medical records are obtained and electronically compiled from a plurality of sources;

one or more medical records of the collection possess a characteristic of non-repudiation such that the medical information contained within said medical records is verified as accurate and correct;

the medical record of a person is transmissible in whole or in part only to that person and others authorized by that person;

each medical record can be supplemented with additional information; and additional medical records for additional persons may be added to the collection;

a secure access for allowing each person to access only their own medical record; and

at least another secure access for allowing said others authorized to access only that person's medical records record.

Claim 2. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein said medical records are electronically compiled by direct input or digital scanning of written information into a computer-readable format.

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Claim 3. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the sources are selected from the group consisting of hospitals, clinics, physician's offices, pharmacies and combinations thereof.

Claim 4. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein said medical records are transmissible through the Internet.

Claim 5. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the medical record for each person contains one or more of: a table of contents, an index, a source notation for information contained within the medical record, an electronic search tool, annotations for errors, linked annotations for errors, treatment options, health care choices, verification standards and news items relevant to the information in the medical record.

Claim 6. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the secure access and the another secure access comprise passwords or encryption keys.

Claim 7. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the others authorized are selected from the group consisting of physicians, nurses, hospitals and health care institutions.

Claim 8. (currently presented) The system of claim 1, wherein ~~one or more medical record possesses~~ all of the medical records of the collection possess the characteristic of non-repudiation.

Claim 9. (currently amended) The system of claim & 1, wherein said non-repudiated medical record is primary for treatment of ~~the patient~~ a person to whom said non-repudiated medical record pertains.

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Claim 10. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein each medical record is certified as accurate.

Claim 11. (currently amended) The system of claim ~~10~~ 1, wherein the medical information of each certified medical record is certified as accurate by the patient by a person to whom the medical record pertains, by the source from which said each medical record was obtained, by a system provider or by a combination thereof.

Claim 12. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein the collection comprises medical records of more than 100,000 persons.

Claim 13. (original) The system of claim 1, wherein said collection complies with a federal or state standard of privacy and security.

Claim 14. (original) The system of claim 13, wherein the federal standard is the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.

Claim 15. (original) The system of claim 13, wherein said collection complies with all state standards of privacy and security for the geographical area in which the system operates.

Claim 16. (original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a fee which is assessed for each access to a medical record.

Claim 17. (original) The system of claim 1, further comprising a fee which is assessed for maintenance of a medical record.

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Claim 18. (currently amended) The system of claim 1, wherein each the medical information of at least one medical record is vetted.

Claim 19. (currently amended) The system of claim 18, wherein the medical information of the vetted medical record contains one or more of: corrections of incorrect information, notations of incorrect information, notations of anomalies, linking of errors, linking of anomalies, notation of discrepancies, linking of discrepancies, and combinations thereof.

Claim 20. (currently amended) A broad-band, computer-based networked system for individual control and management of electronic medical records comprising a plurality of medical records representing a plurality of persons ~~that~~ wherein said plurality of medical records complies with a federal standard of privacy and security and the medical information of at least one medical record of the plurality has been vetted, such that the medical information of said at least one medical record is better than exists at a source site from which the medical record was obtained and thereby is not subject to repudiation.

Claim 21. (original) The system of claim 20, which allows for certification of said medical records.

Claim 22. (original) The system of claim 21, wherein certification represents a predetermined degree of completeness, accuracy or both to said medical records.

Claim 23. (currently amended) The system of claim 20, which allows for vetting of the medical information of said medical records.

Claim 24. (original) The system of claim 23, wherein vetted medical records have been reviewed and corrected or annotated for errors, discrepancies and anomalies.

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Claim 25. (currently amended) The system of claim 20, which allows for non-repudiation of the medical information of said medical records.

Claim 26. (currently amended) The system of claim 25, wherein non-repudiated medical records are primary for treatment of the person to whom each medical record pertains by health care providers.

Claim 27. (currently amended) The system of claim 20, wherein the ~~federal standard~~ is plurality of medical records complies with the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.

Claim 28. (currently amended) The system of claim ~~20~~ 27, which further complies with a state standard of privacy and security.

Claim 29. (original) The system of claim 20, wherein access to any one medical record is restricted to the person to whom said one medical record pertains or to others designated and authorized by said person.

Claim 30. (currently amended) A method for creating an accessible electronic medical records database comprising:

obtaining and compiling a medical record pertaining to a patient;

determining accuracy and correctness of medical information within each medical record;

electronically inputting said medical information within each medical record ~~obtained~~ into a secure computer database containing other medical records; and

allowing said patient and those authorized by said patient access to said patient's medical record wherein access to all other medical records is blocked.

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Claim 31. (currently amended) The method of claim 30, wherein ~~the medical record is obtained from a plurality of sources~~ determining accuracy and correctness comprises vetting, identifying or linking errors or inconsistent information, or expunging clear errors in input.

Claim 32. (original) The method of claim 30, wherein access to the electronic medical record database complies with a federal standard of privacy and security.

Claim 33. (original) The method of claim 30, wherein the federal standard is the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.

Claim 34. (original) The method of claim 30, further comprising updating the medical record database with additional medical information pertaining to said patient.

Claim 35. (original) The method of claim 30, further comprising securely transmitting all or part of said patient's medical record to a third party as designated by said patient.

Claim 36. (original) The method of claim 30, further comprising displaying said medical record pertaining to a patient.

Claim 37. (currently amended) An electronic database of medical records created and compiled according to the method of claim 30, wherein the medical information contained within said medical records is more accurate and correct as compared to those sources from which the medical records were obtained.

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Claim 38. (original) The database of claim 37, which contains the entire medical history of at least one person.

Claim 39. (original) The database of claim 37, wherein each medical record is remotely accessible in whole or in part only by the patient to whom the medical record pertains and those authorized by said patient.

Claim 40. (currently amended) A business model comprising operating and maintaining a secure database of medical records containing medical information of many persons obtained from a plurality of sources whereby each medical record is accessible through transmission pathways and only by the person to whom the medical record pertains and those authorized by said person, and accuracy and correctness of the medical information within at least one medical record is determined to be as good or better than exists at the source from which said at least one medical record was obtained.

Claim 41. (currently amended) A method for integrating medical records to create a certified medical record database comprising: obtaining medical information from one or more healthcare sources for a plurality of patients; electronically inputting all of the medical information obtained into a secure computer database to create medical records; and certifying that each of said medical records meet one of a plurality of certification standards established by ~~the~~ a service provider to create the certified medical record database.

Claim 42. (original) The method of claim 41, wherein any one of the certified medical records can be transmitted only to the patient to whom the record pertains or those authorized by said patient.

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Claim 43. (original) The method of claim 41, wherein the plurality of certification standards are selected from the group consisting of self-certification, certification by the service provider and combinations thereof.

Claim 44 (original) The method of claim 41, further comprising a step whereby said patient obtains an analysis of the medical record.

Claim 45. (original) The method of claim 41, further comprising providing said certified medical record database with the characteristic of non-repudiation.

Claim 46. (currently amended) A computer system for management of patient-based medical records comprising a database of medical records pertaining to one or more subjects; ~~receiving means~~ a receiver for receiving the medical information pertaining to said medical records from one or more senders; a process for verifying that the medical information received is accurate and correct by at least vetting said medical information; a process for authorizing said senders and said additional receivers according to a set of rules; and a transmitter for transmitting at least a portion of said medical records to one or more additional receivers; and authorization ~~means~~ for authorizing said senders and receivers according to a set of rules, ~~wherein said set of rules is designated by said subjects.~~

Claim 47. (original) The computer system of claim 46, wherein said database is a secure database.

Claim 48. (original) The computer system of claim 47, wherein said secure database complies with a federal standard of privacy and security.



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Claim 49. (original) The computer system of claim 48, wherein the federal standard is the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996.

Claim 50. (original) The computer system of claim 48, which further complies with a state standard of privacy and security.

Claim 51. (currently amended) The computer system of claim 46, wherein said ~~receiving means~~ receiver is selected from the group consisting of: modem, cellular receiver, infrared receiver, Ethernet card, facsimile, cable modem, satellite receiver, optical, analog receiver, Internet hub, and web-server.

Claim 52. (currently amended) The computer system of claim 46, wherein said ~~transmission means~~ transmitter is selected from the group consisting of: modem, cellular transmitter, infrared transmitter, Ethernet card, facsimile, cable modem, satellite transmitter, analog transmitter, Internet hub, and web-server.

Claim 53. (currently amended) The computer system of claim 46, wherein said ~~authorization means~~ process of authorizing comprises public key encryption, digital signatures, biometrics, certificate authorities, or user passwords.

Claim 54. (original) The computer system of claim 46, wherein said portion of said medical records have the characteristic of non-repudiation.

Claim 55. (currently amended) The computer system of claim 54 ~~46~~, wherein said non-repudiated medical records of said one or more subjects are primary for treatment of said one or more subjects by health care providers not involved with creating said medical information.

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Claim 56 (currently amended) The computer system of claim 46, further comprising an ~~integration means~~ integrator for reception, display, analysis and modification of said medical records available to be performed on a plurality of systems of ~~various~~ health care providers, payors, clearinghouses, or oversight agencies ~~and other users~~.

Claim 57. (original) The computer system of claim 46, wherein said database is administered by a service provider other than said subjects, senders, and receivers.

Claim 58. (currently amended) The computer system of claim 46, further including ~~vetting means, wherein said vetting means~~ that allows said subjects to supplement said medical records with information relating to the accuracy of said medical records.

Claim 59. (currently amended) The computer system of claim 46, wherein said medical records are owned and controlled by said subjects.